

Quid Novi

CRA

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McGill University Faculty of Law
Faculté de droit de l'Université McGill

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le 14 octobre 1997

A Little More Enlightenment

LEANNE SALEL
LL B I

As a first year rookie here at Chancellor Day, it is daunting trying to discern which skills and attributes I should currently be pursuing. How does one define a "successful lawyer", identify their roles and responsibilities, and to whom these are owed? And does it mean sacrificing personal principles? The first month of law school, understandably, has not resolved many queries. Moreover, students are left to piece this puzzle together from clues implied, whispered, and buried within a dizzying assortment of abstract Foundations readings. However, no one seems willing to advance any straightforward ideas on the matter.

In the midst of this elusive quest, it was refreshing to listen to a lecture at the Newman Centre given in part by professor David Stevens on the topic "St. Thomas More, Lawyer and Saint". In his introduction, Professor Stevens

referred to More as "the ideal lawyer." Finally, here was someone who was prepared to approach the subject! Indeed it appears that More's life holds some interesting insights for students of law.

Thomas More lived during the reign of Henry VIII in 16th Century England. He embarked on a professional career after first having contemplated a religious life. He became lawyer, author, Chancellor of England, father of four children, saint and martyr in the course of his lifetime.

More possesses all the characteristics one normally associates with a good lawyer— he was shrewd, quick, competent and witty— to the point where his popularity forced him to curtail these talents in order to spend more time with his family. However, he also showed great compassion and sensitivity to all and was characterised as a man, "born for

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Top Ten Ways For The Profs To Keep Me Awake

STEVEN LEITMAN

NAT IV AND GUARDIAN OF THE FACULTY CRANBERRIES

10) Bring in videotapes of Country Music TV.

9) Field trips to Habs games.

8) Cancel classes when it's nice out (it wouldn't hold my attention, but they'd have no chance anyway).

7) Show and tell Wednesdays.

6) Caffeinate the air.

5) Auction off a date with the prof (I bid 95\$ for Professor Foster. Don't anybody dare challenge me.).

4) Shut off the fan in room 102.

3) Dean Darth Vader Toope could show us his light sabre.

2) Postpone all classes till the new library opens.

1) Uncle Jeremy's constitutional sing-a-long.

Normally I save my thanks and credit for the last Quid, but I had more help than usual on this week's top ten — it was a collaborative effort. Special thanks to Dan Yelin, Glen Linder, Ari Fried and Laurie Sargent.



Upcoming Events

Presentation: Architects' presentation of the new Law Library Complex, on Wednesday October 15, in the Moot Court, at 12:30.

Speaker: Stewart Istvanffy on the "Law of Refugee Determination: Standard of Evidence in Canada's Immigration and Refugee Board." October 15, 12:15, 2020 University. Info : 398-8408.

Speaker: Diana Bronson on "APEC and Human Rights in the Context of Globalization in the Asia-Pacific" October 15, 12:30 - 14:00, 3715 Peel, Seminar Room. Info : 398-3507.

Canadian Council on International Law Conference

Le 16 au 18 octobre. Ottawa. Parmi les invités: le Gouverneur General Romeo Leblanc, Juge de la Cour suprême Gerald La Forest, David Matas, Dean Toope. Contactez etis_k pour plus de details.

Lesbian / Bisexual Women Potluck

Did you watch the Ellen coming out episode? ...several times? Do the cases M. v. H. and Kane v. Ontario have significance for you? Are you a lesbian or bisexual woman? Are you wondering where all the other women like you are?

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We are too! How about joining us for a potluck Friday, October 17th? Or going as a group to a screening at Image et Nation, the International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival? Call Nora for details (844.7636) or send email to bednar_n

Education Equity Committee Potluck Dinner

Why: To share and discuss equity issues at the faculty

Read article in this issue for further information

When: Sunday, October 19, 6:30 p.m.

Who: Open to students

Where: Call 842-7351 for location and other details

O U S

Announcements

Another Locker Notice: Please claim your locker by October 17 (put a lock on it!), if you don't have a lock on it by this date, you will be giving up your right to it. Lockers unclaimed by October 17th will be re-assigned to those on the waiting list.

Your advertising deserves the widest possible publicity. Please remember two very important things: (i) all notices must be stamped at the OUS; (ii) do not post on glass, on classroom doors or on walls. Notices posted in these places will be taken down. Please use the notice boards.

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Written contributions must be submitted in electronic form, in either Microsoft Word 6 or less or WordPerfect 6 or less. Disks or artwork can be left in the Quid Novi box in the LSA office or at the Quid Novi office. Written contributions can also be sent by e-mail. Deadline is each Wednesday at 12:00.

McGill Legal Info Clinic Needs Seminar Leaders

This past summer, the McGill Legal Information Clinic (MLIC) embarked on a community outreach project aimed at making legal information more accessible to the greater Montreal community. The MLIC contacted over 300 community organizations and schools to assess their interest in legal information seminars targeting either the organizations clientele directly or staff and volunteers (as part of their training program). We received more than 60 responses from organizations working with, among others, the poor, immigrants and refugees, youth, the elderly, women, and people with disabilities. These organizations focus their energies on areas such as discrimination, housing, popular education and empowerment, employment, and improving access to public services. Among the legal seminar topics they most often request are human rights, landlord and tenant law, consumer rights, family law, and youth rights. Those interested in learning more about Montreal's community organizations and in contributing to the work they accomplish are encouraged to offer legal information seminars on the above mentioned topics and others. This is a great way to apply your existing legal knowledge, learn more about other aspects of the law, and develop your public speaking skills. For more information, contact Alexandra Otis, Community Liaison Director at the McGill Legal Information Clinic, at 398-6794 or by e-mail at otis_a.



Volunteers needed for the Sexual Assault Centre of McGill Students' Society. Info : 398-2700.

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT

Davis & Company will be hiring second year law students to work in our Vancouver office during the summer of 1998. We are a full service law firm with approximately 100 lawyers in our Vancouver office. Our student brochure containing detailed information about our firm and our student program is available at the Placement Office or upon request from us. Additional information about our firm is available at our website: www.davis.ca

Interested students studying law at law schools outside of BC are invited to apply no later than October 31, 1997. Resumes and a copy of all post secondary transcripts, including first year law school transcripts, should be directed to the attention of: Chair, Student Recruitment Committee Davis & Company 2800 Park Place 666 Burrard Street Vancouver, BC V6C 2Z7 tel. (604) 687-9444 fax (604) 687-1612

OFFRE POUR UN ASSISTANT-JURIDIQUE

Taches: Ecrire et preparer des lettres et des documents legaux tels des contrats, des affidavits, des mandats, des formulaires gouvernementaux; repondre au telephone et recevoir des clients; Faire la recherche juridique et du court-running; Criteres: Connaissance des notions de base en droit civil, commercial et immigration; Connaissance de l'anglais, du francais et preferablement du chinois; Connaissance du WordPerfect 5.1, Windows et Word Horaire: Temps-partial, lundi au vendredi Renumeration: A determiner Envoyer Curriculum Vitae a: Me. Walter Chi Yan Tom, 3451 rue St. Dominique, Montreal, Quebec H2X 2X5 tel. (514) 282-7572 fax (514) 282-0775

JOB OFFER

Title: Researcher

Salary: \$10.00 per hour

Location: Montreal

Terms: flexible schedule - work your own hours

Requirements: A student in law; good spoken and written English and French. Must have a computer able to load Windows N/T; enjoys and is comfortable with library research. Should have a positive outlook. Duties: To conduct the initial researching of cases/decisions in both Canadian and American law; to write up the appropriate reports based on these case summaries. To Apply: Telephone Ms Claire Bernstein at (514) 489-0806



Smith Smith Law Firm

We wish to advise that we have an articling position available starting June of 1998. All resumes should be sent to: Diane Kennedy Squires, Managing Partner, Smith Smith Gazzola Sansom & Holub, P.O. Box 1025, Guelph, Ontario N1H 6N1

We would appreciate receiving resumes by November 15th, 1997, in order that all interviews may be completed by the end of the Christmas break.

Tutoring. We are looking for a third or fourth year common law student to assist a senior Montreal lawyer in preparing to write the British Columbia transfer exams. The tutoring will relate to basic common law subjects such as contracts, torts, common law property, etc. It is likely that this will take 12 to 15 afternoons over the course of the next six months. The contact person is Daniel Babin at 514-861-1110.

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*A proud sponsor
of the Quid Novi for
1997-98*

McMaster Meighen

*Fier de commander
le Quid Novi pour
1997-98*

Thank God For

WHITE FISHER
A.K.A. DAVID WHITE
NAT IV

Call me Ishmael. Or don't. In any case, just like Coleridge's unfortunate young man, you too will now be accosted by this Ancient Mariner and his tale of woe. Three Law teams took to the ice recently, and three Law teams did fall.

The first to go on Friday night was Men's A League team, the **Prosecutors**. In a late game with depleted ranks, the Pros took on a team going by the name of Wiggum's Warriors.

Now, I don't know about you, but the last time I ever heard of phys-ed was in grade school, and it meant climbing a rope in shorts. Well, the Warriors were from the so-called *Department of Phys-Ed*, and that may go a long way to explaining what occurred on the ice.

The teams were evenly matched throughout the first period. Each rang the other up for two goals, those on the Pros' side coming courtesy of Christian X with assists from Dan Elie. Loquacious Louis Boivin had a tough time on both goals he let in, but there seemed no cause for worry.

The second period opened with a quick Warriors goal, but the Pros were not done yet. Concerns arose when Christian X was assessed a double penalty (6 minutes) after an altercation with a Warrior who knocked his helmet off and got a slash in return. Under the rules, X had no choice but to return immediately to the bench; but, thinking he was a hockey player, X rejoined the play until the next whistle. That action accounted for his second penalty.

A mere ten seconds or so after this penalty began being served, Dan Elie picked the pocket of a hulking Warrior at its own blue line, avoided the back-

check, and scored the equalizer short-handed. It seemed the tide was turning in the Pros' favour, with Warriors heading back to the bench in disgust.

However, thereafter, the proverbial wheels fell off the Pros' little red wagon. The defensive core, missing George Maziotis and David Lametti, struggled to clear the Pros' zone. The forwards found any incursion into Warrior territory to be one into the jaws of chipiness, with slashes, elbows, trips and checks in abundance.

The low point surely occurred when a Warrior player stripped off his helmet and dropped his gloves, challenging Steve Kelly to a fight. At the same moment, in front of the Loquacious One, a Warrior dropped Dave Pickwood flat on his back. Christian X took exception to this and came close to knocking that fellow's head off in a charge from the face-off circle. The sum total of all that was two penalties a side, with Christian X sent off for the rest of the game. The Warrior who dropped his gloves received no additional penalty despite the facts that he was on the ice without his helmet and was trying to provoke a fight in the intramural league. Rules for some but not for others.

After that, the Pros were defeated in mind, body and spirit. The final score was 7-3 and nobody knew why. The benefit emerging from this game was that the team knew it was better than what it showed itself to be.

Mark Friday November 21 at 22:30 on your calendars folks: the Pros-Warriors rematch will not be one to miss.

The second team to earn a "L" was Women's B League team **Chix With Stix**. They played on Sunday against P.O.T. R Us and lost 5-3.

Coach Downtown Wade Dougherty reported that Caroline "The Cougar" Berube was an offensive force to be reckoned with, and that a person

who shall be referred to only as A.C. played net like no one has ever seen.

Dressed in the pads for the first time, this brave soul was unable to get up after having gone down to make a save. Reputedly on the advice of local puck bunny Daniel Ages, the goalie took off her gloves and began scaling the net to get back on her feet. When the play returned to her zone, she returned to the ice quickly, then started up again once the zone was safely cleared. Eventually, she gave up and stayed on the ice.

My one sadness this week is that I missed seeing this game in person. You should feel the same. Next game, Chix, I promise.

The final Law team to fail was Men's D League team **Semper Tyrannis** on Monday night to Team Sucko. With "Big Don" Dimitrivich at forward and Darren Zeidel on defence, this team has more New York personalities than the Carnegie Deli. As well, this reporter is sure that he saw none other than Ed Belfour take his place in Tyrannis' net. Lacking their leader Tim Dunn (out with a rugby inspired ankle injury), the team nonetheless forged bravely on.

The first period was not at all bad, ending up 2-0 for Sucko. Tyrannis had a number of chances, notably an end-to-end rush by Zeidel and strong presence in front of the net by Big Don, but neither came to fruition.

The end of the period came on an ominous note with two Tyrannis players in the penalty box, giving Sucko a two-man advantage for 1:15 of the second.

Tyrannis survived these power plays, but not the one that came after when Jean-Sébastien Dugas took down a Sucko from behind. Sucko scored at 7:00 when Tyrannis was unable to clear in front of its net, something which has the potential of being a chronic ailment.

A fourth Sucko goal followed at

the Brass!

11:30 on a pretty play from that team's ringer behind the net to an open player in front.

A number of Tyrannis rushes were broken up by offsides called against it. One player in particular needs to realize he's not playing road hockey anymore, and therefore can't do what we used to call "goalsuck" and hang out over

the other team's blue line.

Tyrannis just wasn't able to find the back of the net this night, and suffered their first loss of the season to come to 1-1. A better game has been promised by Big Don for next time.

So there. If you too want to live the drama, come out to some of these games:

I hope everyone enjoyed their birds. Stay tuned for further reports from your Man at McConnell.



Tues Oct 14, 23:30
Prosecutors vs. Balantis

Wed Oct 15, 20:30
Malum in Se vs. Malpractice (Law alumni team)

Fri Oct 17, 21:30
Semper Tyrannis vs. 2 Fast 4 U

Sun Oct 19, 15:00
Chix With Stix vs. Motherpuckers

Belles histoires

CHARLES-MAXIME PANACCIO
BCL III

Charles-Maxime Panaccio est un étudiant de troisième année présentement en échange à la faculté de droit de l'Université de Groningen, aux Pays-Bas. Enfant des années quatre-vingt, il affectionne particulièrement les moustaches et les souliers à velcro. Il sait également apprécier le pâté chinois, les après-midis ensoleillés, la famille, les amis... Mais, par-dessus tout, il y a Piat d'Or... Parce que... il est... agréable... et doux...

Voilà, voilà... Oui, voilà... Attention lecteur, lectrice! Un vil quidam s'apprête à te catapulter un cornichon sucré en pleine tronche... Curieux (se), Curieux (se)! Hé! hé! hé! Bon...Maintenant que j'ai su évaluer ton niveau d'attention, je me vois dans l'obligation, afin d'assurer une introduction efficace, d'amener mon sujet, pour ensuite le poser, le diviser, le désosser, l'assaisonner, le faire cuire 35 minutes à "broil" (10 minutes à "Hi" au micro-ondes) et, enfin, le servir à point. Hi! Hi! Hi! (même si c'est pas si drôle que ça... de toute façon, c'est pas parce que c'est drôle qu'on rit; juste des fois... des fois c'est vrai qu'on rit quand c'est drôle, mais pas toujours...)

Donc, voilà, voilà... Oui voilà! J'étudie actuellement à la faculté de droit de l'Université de Groningen (prononcer le "G" comme si vous vouliez cracher un OGNI —objet guttural non-identifié—, pris là depuis trop longtemps), aux Pays-Bas (prononcer "pèiba"). Afin de m'acquitter de la présente tâche, en l'occurrence celle de te relater les hauts-faits de ce séjour, je propose une méthodologie constituée d'un mélange des approches chronologiques et thématiques, qui, espérons-le —oui, espérons-le—accroîtra la flexibilité, la versatilité et la régularité du récit. Et maintenant, si tu

le veux bien, lecteur, lectrice, aspirateur, aspiratrice, commençons

I. LE PERIPLE

Je l'admets, j'avais trop de bagages... J'aurais, aussi, dû dégonfler le ballon de plage avant de le paqueter. Je me suis donc vu contraint de fixer plus ou moins solidement des items à mon sac à dos, ce qui a eu pour effet de bloquer le convoyeur... tabouère... Appel de mon nom au micro... la honte, l'embarras, la Nouvelle-Cadélonie... J'ai du subir la procédure habituelle en ces cas extrêmes, c'est-à-dire les menottes, l'interrogatoire, la séquestration... Ils m'ont finalement relâché, me faisant solennellement promettre de ne plus jamais bloquer le convoyeur. J'ai également du verser une substantielle contribution à l'AVAC (Association des Victimes d'Accidents de Convoyeurs). Je n'en suis tout de même pas moins parti à temps. Le vol fut délicieux, tout comme les cure-dents KLM, d'ailleurs, qui ont monopolisé mon intelligence pour la majeure partie du trajet; quelqu'un a-t-il déjà tenté de sculpter une Naïade dans un cure-dent? L'atterrissage à Amsterdam s'est effectué en douceur et le pilote s'est par le fait même mérité les applaudissements des passagers...

Incidemment, ce sujet requiert l'ouverture

d'une

brève

parenthèse:

s'il est plus sécuritaire de prendre l'avion que de conduire, pourquoi est-ce que personne ne m'applaudit quand je stationne la voiture dans l'entrée? Proportionnellement, l'on devrait m'acclamer par ovation debout et quémander un rappel... Mais passons... En effet, avec toutes ces digressions, et au surplus étant doté du don d'ubiquité, je suis déjà rendu à Groningen. Sortant

du train, je hèle un Taxi, constate après quelques minutes l'absence d'un chauffeur et en hèle un second, qui me dépose au pied d'un immense bloc de béton... Ma résidence...

* Lecteur, lectrice, régleur, réglisse, as-tu remarqué une concordance des temps bizarres dans ce paragraphe? Si oui, lève-toi immédiatement et chante, fort distinctement, "Pris en flagrant délit de tendresse" d'Herbert Léonard. Si non, adonne-toi à une session de breakdance.

L'Arrivée... Etc.

Premières constatations: j'habite au septième étage d'une horreur architecturale. Ma chambre est meublée d'un bureau, d'une chaise, d'une armoire et d'un lit. Mon choix d'activités se résume donc à: 1. m'asseoir. 2. me coucher 3. me cacher dans l'armoire et essayer de me trouver. D'autre part, la cuisine commune se caractérise par un niveau d'insalubrité encore inégalé; il est effectivement possible de se nourrir à même le comptoir... Du fait, je planifiais élever une chèvre (pour le lait et le fromage) ainsi qu'un couple de grenouilles (pour les cuisses), afin de pouvoir vivre en complète autarcie. Malheureusement, tristesse du destin,

l'expérience se conclut par un cuisant échec, la chèvre ayant, par mégarde, brouté les grenouilles...

Je me suis donc résigné à troquer Sylvie (ma chèvre) contre 3 rouleaux de papier essuie-tout double épaisseur, qui ont su étancher toute ma peine.

La Vie Sociale

Mais détrompe-toi, lecteur, lectrice, opérateur, opératrice de machinerie fixe dans une compagnie de tuyaux! Car, malgré le portrait peu enviable que je fais de mon trou à rats, sache que je m'y suis attaché, particulièrement de par la vie sociale qui y règne. Le septième étage



des pays d'en bas

Sud est toujours en fête et l'on y entend un joyeux piaillage, mélange de néerlandais, d'italien, d'anglais et de français (moi qui me parle tout seul); y habitent ainsi Milan, l'alternatif, Marloes, la bonne maman, Ronald, le playmobile, Jeroen, le médecin fou, Ricardo, le placide, Daniele, le Don Juan, James, le cynique, Christiane, la transfuge allemande, et moi, "le garçon canadien". Aussi la résidence tient-elle son propre bar, qui ouvre les dimanches, mardis et jeudi... Mais je préfère nettement aller aux parties de backgammon du mercredi après-midi.

Quant à la ville, très pittoresque, elle est faite sur mesure pour les étudiant(e)s: restaurants, cafés, bars, pubs et discos y foisonnent et ne ferment qu'en cas d'absence de consommateurs; pour les amateurs de vice (et non pas les amateurs de vis) l'on y retrouve également quelques Koffieshops et un mini quartier rouge... En somme, il y a de quoi se chiller une détente groovy et filer mellow (j'sais pas pour vous, mais j'me sens tellement cool quand j'déclame de telles expressions), ce que les Néerlandais résument par le concept de "gezellig". La bière hollandaise est par ailleurs efficace, sans pour autant susciter chez mes papilles un orgasme gustatif. Aussi, une Heinekein vaut bien une bonne vieille bouteille de Laurentide (avec le petit goulot... Donnez-y-a claque!).

Le samedi, le (la) promeneur (se) affamé (e) pourra déambuler à travers les kiosques du marché aux poissons (vismarkt), afin d'y acheter une nourriture succulente et bon marché. En fait, on y trouve de tout (même un ami), sauf des chips au ketchup... Dommage, car ma cargaison fut réduite en miettes lors de cette sombre histoire de convoyeur...

La présence de l'Université se fait manifestement sentir à Groningen. Fondée en 1614, elle compte maintenant 20000 étudiants, équivalant à 15% de la population totale. Très populaire aux Pays-Bas, elle attire également des étudiants d'ailleurs grâce à sa participation à de multiples programmes d'échanges interuniversitaires et intergalactiques. Richard Glenn y a d'ailleurs étudié le port de la moustache... Quand aux cours de droit, ils illustrent éloquemment la quasi-symétrie qui peut exister entre le phénomène normatif et les valeurs d'une société donnée. À titre d'exemple, je suis présentement des cours tels: le hareng et le droit, droit du cannabis, droit des bicyks et fromage et droit. Plus sérieusement maintenant, les Pays-Bas, contrée où les grandes citées — Utrecht, Maastricht, Amsterdam, La Haye, Limoilou — ont presque toutes des noms de traités internationaux (ou est-ce le contraire?), offrent un milieu propice à l'étude du droit des Communautés Européennes et du droit international. Perpendiculairement à ces courants d'études se donnent des cours de sociologie et de philosophie du droit, de droit com-

paré et d'histoire du droit. Leur nombre d'élèves étant généralement restreint, un agréable esprit de collégialité règne au sein des différentes classes... Autre avantage, la session se termine fin novembre... Hé! Hé! Hé!

Conclusion

Trop d'heures et pas assez de secondes, trop de mois et pas assez de minutes... Vaut mieux apprécier chaque instant passé à Groningen et s'aérer le plus possible l'esprit avant cette sinistre période d'entrevues. Sur tous les plans, y vivre s'avère sympathique... Bref, je saluerai tous les Néerlandais que je rencontre de votre part si vous faites de même avec les Canadiens. Enfin, quelqu'un peut-il me faire parvenir impérativement les derniers développements concernant la carrière de Gilles Latullipe? Voilà, voilà et voilà tout!

Pour toutes questions ou commentaires (si saugrenus soient-ils), veuillez me contacter par courrier électronique (le sémaphore ne fonctionnera pas): c.m.panaccio@rechten.rug.nl

* Désolé pour l'avalanche de parenthèses, mais je n'ai pas trouvé d'autres façon d'inclure toutes sortes d'inepties en cours de texte.

PROCHAINE TOMBÉE:
LE MERCREDI, 15 OCTOBRE 1997

NEXT DEADLINE:
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1997

Education Equity Seeks Your Participation

DYANOOSH YOUSSEFI, NAT IV
TRIPTA SOOD, LL B III
ALEJANDRA VARELA, LL B II
STUDENT MEMBERS,
EDUCATION EQUITY
COMMITTEE

Examine the cultural mosaic of students at McGill's Faculty of Law over the last couple of decades, and you will observe a progressive change. No, we are not referring to the move away from the long shaggy hair and untamed, overgrown beards of the 1970s. Rather, the changes that we are referring to reflect characteristics more inherent to those students who possess them. Over the years, the Faculty has steadily become more enriched with students from different ethnic, racial and cultural backgrounds. Slowly, mature students and students with physical disabilities are joining the student population. Increasingly, gay and lesbian students are open about their sexual orientation. Very slowly, students from the many groups traditionally underrepresented at the law school are beginning to voice their opinions, concerns and approval of law school.

Students from such groups, in particular, and all other students and faculty, in general, might be interested in the objectives and planned activities of the Education Equity Committee.

The Education Equity Committee started six years ago as an *ad hoc* committee. Currently, the six-member Committee is comprised of three faculty members and three students. Faculty members are chosen by the Dean, while student members are interviewed and appointed by the L.S.A. Hiring Committee at the end of each year. This year's faculty and student members are: Professor Colleen Sheppard, Professor Margaret Somerville and Associate Dean

Robin Geller, Alejandra Varela, Tripta Sood and Dyanoosh Youssefi.

The Committee's primary objectives include, 1. The promotion of diversity and an atmosphere of respect for and appreciation of differences; 2. The identi-

fication and elimination of discrimination against individuals belonging to groups historically under-represented in the Law Faculty.

Over the years, the Committee has submitted reports to Faculty Council on various issues. It was instrumental in initiating and instituting the part-time program at the Faculty. Last year, members of the Committee were involved in the library project in order to ensure that

Patterns of Life

SOULETTE GRAY
BCL II



We are born, we grow
In our efforts and ambitions we show
Our worth to others and prove it to our pride
In our longings for connection in others we confide
The ingredients that make our experiences worthwhile
The joys, the sorrows, our determination our smile
In time we become the objects of our existence
Armoured with the adult trait of sophisticated pretence
The value of formality outweighs the importance of reality
This is the price we pay for the organized protocol of civility
Where material accumulations take priority over tomorrow's children
For those who follow this grid, who can blame them
When we are all immersed in settings of a fungible leaning
That tells us that this is the way to give our lives meaning?
And so in our modern day sex roles as hunters and gatherers
We hunt and hoard "success" like our respectable fathers and mothers
So, when we meet new people we ask: "What do you do?"
In our efforts to decipher if they are "successful" and "worthwhile" too
By middle age, hopefully true wisdom sets in
Thus for the worldly, midlife is not a crisis but an awakening
And we truly begin the freedom that is living
As the revelation occurs regarding what it means in life to win
An awakening as to what a meaningful life entails
Coupled with the ability to see through spiritual rails
We would accept that all things are not as they appear
We would understand however that this is no reason to embrace fear
We would have seen that in the grand splendour of things
Like a bird, our soul can be liberated and take on wings
Much like flowers, we are beautiful, colourful and yet so feeble
We would have learnt what it really means to be humble
And the eternal truth that all that matters in life is people
In all, we would have savoured life in every moment to its end
We would have lived a personal definition of the word friend.

the ceremonial steps would be wheelchair accessible (as of yet, it is not confirmed whether the ramp will be built or not).

This year, the Committee has set an ambitious agenda, based on what students have identified as concerns and issues that need to be addressed. First, the Committee will explore existing mechanisms of **accountability** at the Faculty, and determine where and how improvements should be made.

Second, **curriculum reform** is on the Committee's agenda. The group will become more involved in the curriculum reform process that is already in place, with a focus on two main issues: the substantive and the procedural aspects of curriculum and education at the Faculty. Substantive issues will include course content, while procedural issues involve faculty-student as well as student-student relations.

Of course, any efforts by the Committee to bring issues to the attention of the faculty and other students will reflect the current, pressing concerns of students. While students have voiced their opinions through various, mostly informal, venues, the Committee plans to raise awareness on the relevant issues in a more comprehensive manner this year. As a result, **raising awareness** at the Faculty is also a priority for the Committee.

The first step that the Committee is taking toward raising awareness is the informal potluck dinner, to be held on October 19, at 6:30 p.m. This dinner (open to students only) will provide students with the opportunity to share stories of their diverse experiences at the Faculty. It will allow students to become familiar with other students who have had similar experiences and to discuss improvements that can be made at the Faculty. We encourage all students who are concerned with equity issues at the Faculty of Law to attend. For further information on the potluck dinner, or to RSVP, contact Dyanoosh Youssefi at yousse_d or 842-7351.

If you have any other concerns regarding equity issues at the Faculty, we invite you to approach any of the student or faculty members, either in person, by phone or by e-mail.

BEN'S RE-TORT B Muchas Gracias Pedro

BENJAMIN ARCHIBALD
LL B I

This past year, Montreal baseball fans witnessed one of the best pitching performances in baseball history. The Expos' Pedro Martinez collected some rather impressive statistics on a sub-five hundred ball club: 18 wins, 305 strikeouts and a league best 1.90 E.R.A.

Despite his efforts, only an announced crowd of twelve thousand came to watch Pedro pitch for probably the last time in an Expos uniform.

Granted, I too did not make it to "Le Stade". Nonetheless, it was disheartening to see what was once a baseball town pay no regard to a future Hall of Famer.

All Montrealers are familiar with the declining popularity of *nos amours*. Many are still disgusted by the fire sales of 1994-97 that have seen our best players move on to other teams. The past couple of years, the number of Expos in the playoff hunt has loomed large: John Wetteland, already a World Series M.V.P., Ken Hill, Randy Johnson, Moises Alou, Larry Walker, Jeff Fassero, Marquis Grissom, and Andres Galarraga, among others.

After a recent meeting with Felipe Alou and the coaches, owner Claude Brochu let it be known that next season more Expos may be headed to the post-season. Sadly, they'll be on other teams. Au revoir Pedro, Mike Lansing, Darrin Fletcher, and David Segui.

The purge of great players will continue under Claude Brochu's plan of

fiscal responsibility. It seems that manager extraordinaire Felipe Alou will have to continue producing miracle seasons in which the Expos are competitive until the All Star break, and then fall apart due to lack of depth.

No wonder the fans are turned off. By the time they like a player, he's out of Montreal's price range and off to win a World Series for another city. We produce the best players, but their best years are spent elsewhere.

Recently, Claude Brochu has announced plans to finally leave the white elephant in the east end and build a proper downtown ball park adjacent to the Molson Centre. For selfish reasons I desperately want him to succeed. But realistically, the Expos will be playing in Virginia by the year two thousand.

In a city with high unemployment, racked by political and economic instability, Brochu cannot expect public funding for his project. Yes, a ball park would be great for the city, but there has to be a modicum of interest shown by the fans. Hurt by the fire sales, no fan will jump at funding Brochu, a millionaire, and his new stadium. Priorities lie elsewhere, in saving Medicare and funding for higher education.

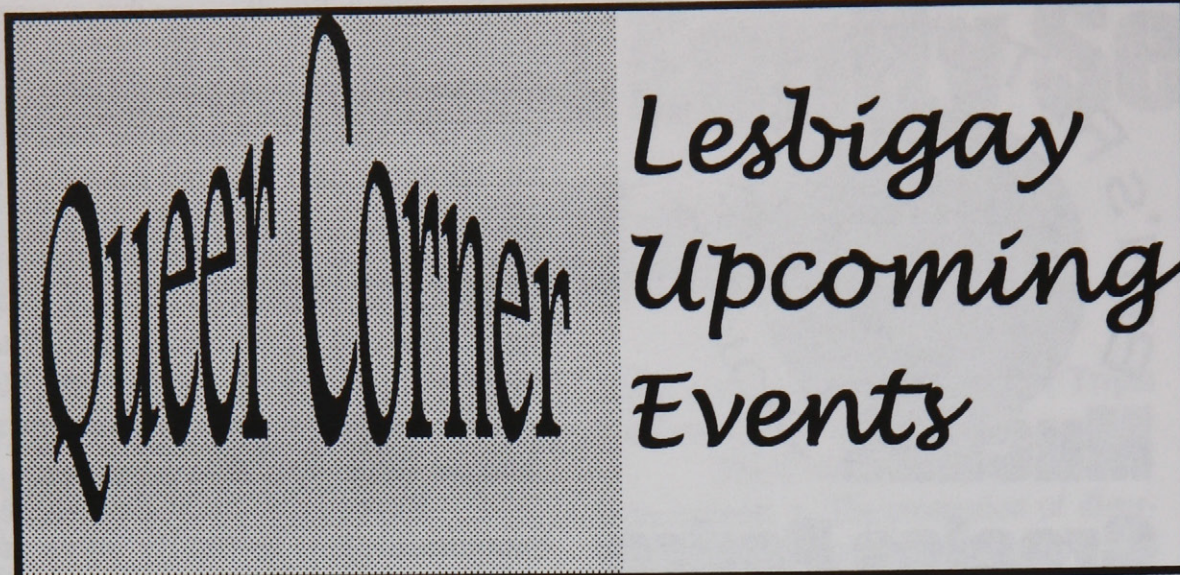
What we can do, though, is start enjoying the players we have while they are here. Yes, it involves a trek to the Parc Olympique, an utterly depressing sight, but before long we will be stuck with the Canadiens and their pitiful performances of late.

Major League Baseball will be missed in this town, but its departure is inevitable.

The Expos are very much an example of what has gone wrong in this city: a government trying to artificially move downtown eastward, a faltering economy that cannot support big business, and a populous that seems to be following the Expos out of the province.

If the Expos survive maybe they'll foreshadow the city's rebirth, but if they leave they will exemplify its decline.

Next year, when another little-known Expos pitcher develops into a star, let's all go to the game and enjoy the show while it lasts.



TODD WHARTON
CO-PRÉSIDENT, LES
MINORITES SEXUELLES ET LE
DROIT

Pour la semaine du 13 Octobre *Les Minorites sexuelles et le droit* n'a rien de prévu car on n'oserait pas entrer en compétition avec tout ce qui se passe actuellement à Montréal. Tout comme dans le passé, l'automne offre une gamme tout à fait incroyable d'activités gaies et lesbiennes. J'espère que ce qui suit servira à vous orienter sur une petite partie de l'ensemble des événements offerts à la communauté. Profitez-en!

FILM — Montreal's tenth annual international gay and lesbian film festival, "image et nation gaie et lesbienne — 10 ans de presence et de visibilité" will be running from October 15th-27th. *Image & Nation* is the largest queer film festival in Canada. This year alone there will be more than 100 films and videos for an expected audience of over 13,000 people. The festival is a god-send for those interested in alternative cinema, and many films are screened in the presence of their directors.

The festival takes place in a number of venues located in central Montreal. Screenings tend to sell out extremely quickly; it is important to try to get tickets one full hour in advance. *Image & Nation* has produced a 64-page catalog with film descriptions, schedules and locations. The catalog is available in the usual range of hip venues (the closest to McGill would probably be Parc

Cinema in the LaCité complex at Parc/Milton). The schedule is also incorporated into the gay monthly magazine *Fugues* (same hip locations). For more information: Info festival 285-4467, or www.kiosque.com/imagenation.

Cinéma du Parc/ Parc Cinema (at Parc/Milton, downstairs, next to the Metro) is also offering several exceptional queer films this month. October 17-30 is Deepa Mehta's 1997 *Fire*, which is a charming lesbian romance set in contemporary New Delhi. Also playing on the 17th and 20th is the critically acclaimed *Love! Valour! Compassion!*, which follows the lives of eight gay men over a series of summer weekends. For info.: 287-7272. Parc Cinema is practically next to campus and has the distinct advantage of being dirt cheap (\$3 per film if you buy a pass of 12, or \$4.50 for students).

DANCE — The Black & Blue Festival will be starting to wind down next week. Black & Blue is billed as the world's largest all-night gay dance party benefit (at the Palais des Congrès), and, as a festival, it includes an unbelievable range of smaller parties and expositions. Info: 875-7026, www.bbcm.org.

Amusez-vous bien et n'oubliez pas de passer quelques moments à bouquiner! Comme toujours, si vous avez des questions à l'égard de *Sexual Minorities & Law*, n'hésitez pas à nous contacter par courrier électronique (wharto_t, bednar_n, ravind_k) or par téléphone (Todd, 844-0408). A la prochaine!

Lessons to be Learned from Maclean's

VICTOR N. CONSTANTINESCU
BCL I

"Hey, can you believe that Moncton actually ranked ahead of us?"

"New Brunswick...second?! How did that happen?"

"What?? Only sixth?!"

These comments have been filling the corridors and classrooms of Old and New Chancellor Day Hall in response to *Maclean's* ranking of Canadian law schools. Although some students seem satisfied with McGill's position, many first-year students have expressed disappointment at what they thought was perhaps Canada's leading law school.

Already, there has been a tendency among students and faculty to dismiss the relevance of the rankings. Common complaints are that the criteria used are not relevant, the ranking formula is flawed, and so forth. But while we may know the situation at McGill better than *Maclean's*, the fact of the matter is that *Maclean's* survey will be widely read. People not associated with the legal profession will take the rankings at face value. The study will undoubtedly be read by thousands of prospective law students who will undeniably be influenced to some extent by the glossy pages before them. For a school with a record of outstanding scholarship and a reputation as a leader in Canadian legal education, McGill's sixth-place finish conjures up

an image of a school on the decline. This would not bode well for the Faculty of Law's future if student quality begins to suffer ever so slightly. Thus, the tendency to dismiss the rankings as nonsense is all the more dangerous.

In the United States, *U.S. News & World Report* annually publishes its much-anticipated university rankings. Many of the schools who were disappointed at their ranking also proceeded to lambaste *U.S. News'* criteria and essentially ignored the rankings to their detriment. Others, while perhaps sharing their colleagues' view, took a more proactive approach and went straight to work. Realizing that the magazine enjoys broad readership and prospective students often have little other information to go by, they embarked on an immediate self-assessment. Using questionnaires, consulting university faculty and student groups and staging "town-hall meetings", they identified key areas needing attention and proceeded to act upon it. This did not necessarily require more money. On the contrary, it forced them to look at a more efficient use of services and resources — streamlining some while beefing up others. They instituted curricular reform that is more reflective of what today's job market demands. They introduced increased flexibility across a range of university services from library hours to menu offerings at cafeterias. They also reached out more to the community. These universities have found that their rankings in *U.S. News* considerably improved in subsequent years. The result was an increase in applications and student quality.

McGill's Faculty of Law might learn something from their experiences. As a first-year student, I am not as familiar with the glaring departmental issues as are upper-year students. But there do seem to be complaints. Curricular reform and library facilities are two phrases tossed around a lot — issues made all the more apparent courtesy of *Maclean's*. By taking a proactive approach and looking to better use its resources, considerable improvements could seemingly be made. And it could also halt any possible downward trend of the Faculty's reputation.

A Chat with Sir Wilf

ALAN THICKE
LL B I

I was sampling a fine beverage of water, hops, barley and yeast on a Thursday afternoon in Coffee House, when I heard someone calling me. Actually, I was not called explicitly by name, but was referred to as "Young Sir". I turned around, but could not find a soul from whom these words could have emanated. I was in the process of turning my attention back to my drinking vessel when I realized that it was Sir Wilfred Laurier himself who was addressing me.

One would think that Sir Wilf simply passively stares down from his exalted wall-side position, oblivious to the action or inaction below. However, this is not the case at all. After having dispensed with the formalities of introductions, salutations, et al., Sir Wilf assumed the offensive, demanding to be brought up to date as to current affairs.

One of Wilfie's main concerns was the evolution of copyright law. Particularly, he was livid that consent had been given for his likeness to be used on beer tokens. Explaining that the blue sheets of paper being exchanged for the frothy cups were, in fact, Canadian currency, I somehow managed to calm Wilf down and even got him to believe that it was considered an honour to be able to stare perpetually blankly outwards from a note of legal tender (I dared not mention that Macdonald graced the 10).

Soon after, Wilf began to espouse some neo-classical contract theory, and I knew it was time to get back to the suds. I bade adieu, walked away, and pined over the fact that Sir John A. himself is not present—Coffee House seems to be missing whiskey, and I'd wager that he'd be just the man to rectify this!

Q u i d N o v i

A Little More Enlightenment

(CONT'D FROM PAGE 1)

friendship." He balanced in his career a love for people, a deep commitment to his family, diverse academic pursuits, and a strong spiritual life.

He was a great advocate of education and hard work, personally supervising his sons' and daughters' education without distinction between them. He desired for his children to "*beware the dangers of pride and haughtiness and rather to walk in the pleasant meadows of modesty; not to be dazzled by the sight of gold; not to lament that they do not possess what they erroneously admire in others, not to think more of themselves for gaudy trappings nor less for the want of them....to put virtue in the first place, learning in the second and in their studies to esteem most whatever may teach them piety towards God, charity to all, and Christian humility in themselves....These I consider the genuine fruits of learning and though I admit that not all scholars possess them, I would maintain that those who give themselves to study with such views will easily attain their end and become perfect.*"

More didn't compromise his values, although he was aware of the dangers of public life, skilfully preserving a balance that would allow him to continue his work for the greatest public good. Ironically, More's rising position in political life coincided with a diminishing realisation of his goals. Ultimately, More was tested for his greatest allegiance, even over the love of his family. He was charged for treason for his refusal to comment on the King's remarriage and supremacy. More was imprisoned in the Tower of London for fifteen months, during which time his wife was forced to sell her wardrobe to pay for his "rent" at the tower. His lack of bitterness at his execution, even expressing the hope that King Henry might join him one day in paradise reveals his genuine concern for the welfare for all that exemplified his life.

Thomas More would encourage people to maintain their values in their professional lives, to make the most of their God-given talents, and that human beings, rather than title and money, are paramount. Ultimately, each one of us will formulate our own answers to the questions I first posed. But in turning to the lives of great legal figures we may become a little More enlightened.

Poem for a Quid, but a Dollar Will Do

SALIM NAKHJAVANI
BCL I

I simply wish to understand
Why things in Law seem muddled.
And through this rhyme (or so I've planned)
I should grow less befuddled.

O! ye that hasten to approach the Bar
And drink deep of the legal draft,
Just four short weeks I've seen thus far
Of the lawyer's artful craft.

So you may find me somewhat green
Though I'd say 'Stare'-eyed.
The *ratio* I have not seen
The *obiter*'s inside.

The *jus in re* will not pour forth
From the jug of *communae*.
And please explain how women count
As *bons pères de famille*?

Let 'Justice' be reduced to 'J.'
And 'v.' pronounced as 'and'.
Group of judges? Then we say,
As 'JJ.' they shall stand.

Does the Act of '82
Include the S.C.C.?
Well yes, well maybe, tell me true:
Where does the S.C. be?

If B.C.L.'s are the 'civil' group
Then tongue-in-cheek 'tis quoted
That all among the 'other' troupe
By 'commoners' be denoted.

Forgive me if I wax poetic
My wingèd horse grows lame;
And if the jokes were *fort* pathetic
Find someone else to blame.